

## Claims

[c1] 1. A coated chewing gum product comprising:  
a gum center that includes a water soluble portion and a water insoluble portion, the water insoluble portion comprising at least 50% by weight of the gum center, the gum center including less than 5% by weight of bulk sweeteners; and  
a coating that at least substantially surrounds the gum center.

[c2] 2. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the coating comprises at least 50% by weight of the coated chewing gum product.

[c3] 3. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the coating comprises at least 80% by weight of the coated chewing gum product.

[c4] 4. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the gum center does not include any bulk sweetener.

[c5] 5. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the insoluble portion comprises at least 65% by weight of the gum center.

[c6] 6. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the product has a spherical shape.

[c7] 7. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the gum center includes 0.1 to 25% by weight flavor.

[c8] 8. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the gum center is wax-free.

[c9] 9. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 1 wherein the coating includes:  
at least 0.1% to about 12% flavoring;  
at least 0.05% to about 1.0% by weight artificial sweetener; and  
at least 0.1% to about 5% by weight dispensing agent.

[c10] 10. A coated chewing gum product comprising:

a gum center including a water soluble portion and a water insoluble portion, the water insoluble portion comprising at least 50% by weight of the gum center, the gum center including a flavoring agent that comprises at least 0.1% by weight of the gum center and less than 5% by weight of a bulk sweetener; and

a coating that substantially surrounds the gum center and comprises at least 50% by weight of the coated chewing gum composition.

[c11] 11. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the gum center does not include any bulk sweetener.

[c12] 12. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the insoluble portion comprises at least 65% by weight of the gum center.

[c13] 13. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the product has a spherical shape.

[c14] 14. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the coating includes:

at least 0.1% to about 12% flavoring;

at least 0.05% to about 1.0% by weight artificial sweetener; and

at least 0.1% to about 5% by weight dispensing agent.

[c15] 15. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the product has a pellet like shape.

[c16] 16. The coated chewing gum product of Claim 10 wherein the gum center is sugarless.

[c17] 17. A method of improving flavor perception in a coated chewing gum product comprising the step of providing a coated chewing gum product that includes a gum center that comprises at least 50% by weight gum base and less than 5% bulk sweeteners.

[c18] 18. The method of Claim 17 including the steps of coating a gum center with a syrup coating to produce the coated chewing gum product.

[c19] 19. The method of Claim 17 wherein the gum center does not include any bulk sweetener.

[c20] 20. The method of Claim 17 including the step of using a panning process to produce the coated chewing gum product.